

# Common Cents



**GSA Federal Credit Union's Quarterly Newsletter**

[www.gsafcu.gsa.gov](http://www.gsafcu.gsa.gov)



**GSA FCU Drives A Better Deal...**

## New, Used & Refinanced Auto Loans

As Low As **3.24% APR\***



Whether it's a new, used or refinanced auto loan, our low rate and flexible payment terms are perfect for any car-buying need!

**Apply Online 24/7 . . .  
It's Fast & Easy!**

Just log on to [www.gsafcu.gsa.gov](http://www.gsafcu.gsa.gov) and click on the "Loan Application" icon. Apply anytime from the convenience of your home or office, whenever it's best for you. Or, stop by or call 202-501-0677.

\*Annual Percentage Rate; subject to change. Rates subject to credit approval. Certain restrictions apply.

## Take Charge With The Visa Platinum Rewards Card!

With the GSA FCU Visa® Platinum Rewards card, you'll enjoy one of the lowest rates around and earn reward points with each purchase! Every time you use your Visa Platinum Rewards card for purchases – whether it's for gas, at the mall or for a special night out on the town – you earn **ScoreCard<sup>SM</sup> Bonus Points** that can be redeemed for travel (including cruises and complete vacation packages) and other great merchandise. Take a look at these great benefits:

**As low as Prime + 3%,  
currently just 7.00% APR**

- Low **Prime + 3%** – currently just **7.00% APR\***  
Maximum rate is 10.9%
- 25-day grace period on purchases
- Credit lines from \$5,000 – \$20,000
- Concierge service
- Rental car insurance
- Roadside assistance program
- Extended warranty service
- \$1,000,000 in travel accident insurance
- A low \$15 annual fee



## Transfer Existing Balances

If you're paying 18%, 19%, 20% or even more with your current credit card, now's the time to take charge of your finances with the GSA FCU Visa Platinum Rewards card. Transfer existing credit card balances from other financial institutions to your GSA FCU Visa Platinum Rewards card and lower your annual percentage rate, helping you possibly **SAVE** hundreds of dollars in interest charges. Make the switch today!

**APPLY TODAY – visit [www.gsafcu.gsa.gov](http://www.gsafcu.gsa.gov),  
stop by or call 202-501-0677.**

## Fixed-Rate Home Equity Loan

Just **4.49% APR!**

A GSA FCU Fixed-Rate Home Equity Loan – **now just 4.49% APR** – is the affordable and tax-smart way to fund home improvements, education expenses, debt consolidation and more. Unlike other types of loans, interest payments are typically tax-deductible. This can help lower your overall tax bill . . . which means more money back at tax time!



- **Just 4.49% APR\***
- Payment terms up to 5 years
- Tax-deductible interest†
- Easy and convenient access to funds

**Apply today –  
visit [www.gsafcu.gsa.gov](http://www.gsafcu.gsa.gov),  
stop by or call 202-501-0677.**

## Refer a New Member & Earn CASH!

Help GSA FCU grow by referring co-workers and family members to join, and we'll help your savings grow by rewarding you with up to \$20 for each new member you refer.\* Not only will you earn cash, but those co-workers and family members you refer will enjoy **FREE** membership when they join. *The more people you refer, the more money you can earn!*

Refer a new member and receive:

- \$5 when they join
- \$10 if they open a Savings and Checking account
- \$20 if they open a Savings and Checking account with Direct Deposit



**Pass Along The Credit Union Advantage Today!** You already enjoy the benefits of credit union membership, so why not pass them along? There's never been a better time – but hurry, this special promotion is for a limited time only.

Call **202-501-0677** for a new member packet today, stop by or visit our website to join at [www.gsafcu.gsa.gov](http://www.gsafcu.gsa.gov).

\*Certain restrictions apply. Call for details.



### GSA FCU Introduces Check Imaging!

Now you can view images of your cleared checks anytime, anywhere you have Internet access. All you need to do is sign up for free PC Banking, then you can log on 24/7 and view all your cleared checks . . . it's easy and convenient! Sign up today – visit [www.gsafcu.gsa.gov](http://www.gsafcu.gsa.gov).



### Enjoy Around-The-Clock Convenience With GSA FCU Online Banking!

With GSA FCU Online Banking, there's never a need to make an extra trip to the Credit Union or stand in line. Just log on to [www.gsafcu.gsa.gov](http://www.gsafcu.gsa.gov) and enjoy the 24/7 convenience of Online Banking. You'll save time and money when you enjoy the free and easy convenience of being able to:

- View cleared checks
- View online account balance information
- Transfer funds between accounts
- Verify whether a check has cleared
- Stop payment on a check
- And much more . . . all from the comfort of your home or office!

Visit [www.gsafcu.gsa.gov](http://www.gsafcu.gsa.gov) to sign up today.

## GSA FCU Annual Meeting – July 20th

Make plans to attend the GSA FCU Annual Meeting. It's a great opportunity to hear about future Credit Union plans, past results and to voice your input! We hope to see you there.

Date: **Tuesday, July 20, 2004**

Time: **Noon**

Location: **NCR Building, 7<sup>th</sup> & D Streets SW, Washington, DC**



# Tips For Avoiding Credit/Check Card Fraud

Credit/Check card fraud costs cardholders and issuers hundreds of millions of dollars each year. While theft is the most obvious form of fraud, it can occur in other ways. For example, someone may use your card number without your knowledge. While it's not always possible to prevent credit or check card fraud from happening, there are a few steps you can take to make it more difficult for a crook to capture your card or card numbers.

Here are a few tips to help protect you from credit card fraud:

## Things To Do:

- Sign your cards as soon as they arrive.
- Carry your cards separately from your wallet.
- Keep a record of your account numbers, their expiration dates, and the phone number and address of each company in a secure place.
- Keep an eye on your card during the transaction, and get it back as quickly as possible.
- Void incorrect receipts.
- Destroy carbon copies of receipts.
- Save receipts to compare with billing statements.
- Open bills promptly and reconcile accounts monthly, just as you would your checking account.
- Report any questionable charges promptly and in writing to the card issuer.
- Notify card companies in advance of a change in address.



## Things NOT To Do:

- Lend your card(s) to anyone.
- Leave cards or receipts lying around.
- Sign a blank receipt. When you sign a receipt, draw a line through any blank spaces above the total.
- Write your account number on a postcard or the outside of an envelope.
- Give out your account number over the phone unless you're making the call to a company you know is reputable.

## Final Reminder: Important ATM Card Update

As of March 31, 2004, GSA FCU ATM cards will be discontinued and will no longer work at any ATMs. The GSA FCU Visa® Check card will replace your ATM card. Members will have to apply for the Visa Check card if you do not already have one. In addition to functioning as your

ATM card, the Visa Check card will also offer the ease and convenience of making automatic debits from your checking account, good wherever Visa debit is accepted. For additional information, stop by the Credit Union or call 202-501-0677 to apply for your card today.

## ELECTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Board of Directors appoints a nominating committee which is charged with naming at least one nominee for each vacancy. In addition, a member of the Credit Union may be nominated by petition. A valid petition must contain the signatures and account numbers of at least 57 members in good standing with the Credit Union and must be delivered to the Secretary of the Board of Directors along with a brief biography outlining his or her qualifications to serve as a director. Nominees must be at least 18 years of age.

Visit [www.gsafcu.gsa.gov](http://www.gsafcu.gsa.gov)  
for additional details.

## INDIVIDUALS NOMINATED BY THE COMMITTEE

- **Larry Monroe** - has been employed by GSA for 33 years and is currently Chief, Security Branch in the Office of Emergency Management located in the GSA Central Office Building. He is currently on the Board of Directors of the Credit Union and has served for nine years.
- **William Conley** - recently retired from GSA and since his retirement has been working as a consultant. He is currently on the Board of Directors and has served for over 20 years.
- **J.E. (Gus) Zaiser** - is a retiree of the Public Buildings Service, National Capital Region. He is currently on the Board of Directors and serves as Secretary of the Board.



# We've Raised Our Certificate Rates!

Take a look at our rate sheet below and you'll notice that GSA FCU has raised its Share Certificate rates! A Share Certificate is a great way to earn competitive investment rates while maintaining the safety and stability you want and need. Your funds are automatically insured by the NCUA for up to \$100,000. We're currently offering rates as high as 4.60% APY\* with a 60-month term.

**To check out all of our rates and terms, or to apply today, stop by, call 202-501-0677 or visit [www.gsafcu.gsa.gov](http://www.gsafcu.gsa.gov).**

\*Annual Percentage Yield

## Holiday Closings

Memorial Day – May 31 • Independence Day – July 5 (observed)

## RateWatch

Rates effective as of publication date and subject to change without notice. Call for current rates. Loan rates published here are lowest possible rates. Actual rates may vary based on credit score of individual applicants.

### Share Rates

Share Type	APR	APY
<b>Share Savings</b>		
Balances of		
\$5.01-\$1,000	1.00%	1.00%
\$1,001-\$2,000	1.00%	1.00%
\$2,001-\$10,000	1.00%	1.00%
\$10,001-\$20,000	1.00%	1.00%
Over \$20,000	1.00%	1.00%

### Share Draft

\$1,001-\$2,000	.25%	.25%
\$2,001-\$10,000	.75%	.75%
\$10,001-\$20,000	.75%	.75%
Over \$20,000	.75%	.75%

### Christmas/Vacation

<b>Club Accounts</b>	1.52%	1.53%
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<b>IRA Share Account</b>	2.25%	2.27%
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### Share Certificates

6-Month	1.75%	1.77%
12-Month	2.25%	2.28%
24-Month	2.75%	2.79%
36-Month	3.25%	3.30%
48-Month	3.50%	3.54%
60-Month	4.50%	4.60%

### Loan Rates\*

Loan Type	Lowest APR
<b>Unsecured (Signature)</b>	9.90%-18.00%
<b>Vehicle – New or Used**</b>	
24 Months	3.24%-17.00%*
36 Months	3.74%-17.45%*
48 Months	3.99%-18.00%*
<b>Vehicle – New</b>	
60 Months	3.99%-18.00%
72 Months	4.49%-7.25%*

### Home Equity – Variable Rate

Up to 90% LTV	5.25%-7.25%*
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### Second Trust

Up to 90% LTV	4.49%-7.50%*
Up to 100% LTV	7.00%*†
Up to 110% LTV (variable rate)	8.00%*†

<b>Visa Platinum (variable rate)</b>	7.00%
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<b>Visa Classic</b>	11.88%-15.00%
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<b>Overdraft Protection</b>	15.00%
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<b>Certificate Secured Loan</b>	Certificate Rate +3.00%
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<b>Share Secured Loan</b>	Share Rate +3.00%
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APR = Annual Percentage Rate • APY = Annual Percentage Yield

\* These rates apply to loans repaid with direct deposit.

\*\* Add 1.50% for cars not purchased with a warranty if over two years old. No loan rate will exceed 18.00%.

† Must meet the specific loan underwriting criteria.



## Board of Directors

Henry Singer, *President*  
 Frederick Bridges, *Vice Chairperson*  
 Christine Singer, *Treasurer*  
 James (Gus) Zaiser, *Secretary*  
 Stephen Kulenguski, *Deputy Treasurer*  
 William Conley, *Director*  
 Laverne Iacangelo, *Director*  
 Larry Monroe, *Director*  
 Derek Gourdine, *Director*

## Supervisory Committee

Derek Gourdine, *Chairperson*  
 Edward Giefer, *Member*  
 Yolonda Betts, *Member*

## Staff

Jerome P. Malvin, Jr., *President/CEO*  
 Marissa White, *Vice President/COO*  
 Manidipa Roy, *Loan Operations Supervisor*  
 Shirley Evans, *Member Service Supervisor*  
 Diana Whiteside, *Accounting Supervisor*  
 Brock Hayslett, *Accounting Assistant*  
 Frederick Miller, *Member Services*  
 Wanda Loudon, *Member Services*  
 Tracy Kemper, Jr., *Loan Officer*  
 Charles E. Brown, III, *Member Services*  
 Thomas Corry, *Telephone Services*

## Central Office

(Administrative Offices in Room G112)  
 18th & F Streets, NW, Room B101  
 Washington, DC 20405  
 202-501-0677  
 Fax: 202-208-4023

## Lobby Hours

Monday & Friday: 9:00 am - 3:00 pm  
 Tue/Wed/Thur: 10:00 am - 2:00 pm

## Telephone Hours

8:30 am - 3:30 pm

## Mailing Address

PO Box 27559  
 Washington, DC 20038-7559

## Regional Office

7th & D Streets SW, Room 5021  
 Washington, DC 20407  
 202-488-5310  
 Fax: 202-488-8555

## Lobby Hours

Monday & Friday: 9:00 am - 3:00 pm  
 Tue/Wed/Thur: 10:00 am - 2:00 pm

## Telephone Hours

8:30 am - 3:30 pm

## 24-Hour Teleserv

202-484-8090

## Web Site

[www.gsafcu.gsa.gov](http://www.gsafcu.gsa.gov)